

Application No.: 10/626,688

Page 2

Art Unit: 1754

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A process for producing hydrazine with nitrogen and hydrogen as raw materials, ~~and~~ comprising the steps of:
  - (A) generating ~~a large quantity of~~ photons from a high-energy laser pulsed source, with pulse energy at least  $10^5$  J per pulse;
  - (B) passing said photons through a laser amplifier pumped by an arc lamp to produce photons with increased pulsed intensity, with pulse intensities ~~between~~ at least  $10^{11}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> and  ~~$10^{12}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>~~;
  - (C) introducing said intensified pulsed laser photons to excite nitrogen molecules from said nitrogen raw materials through two-photon absorptions so that said nitrogen molecules are induced to make transitions from ~~the~~ a ground vibrational state thereof to excited vibrational states ~~in the ground electronic configuration~~;
  - (D) flowing said excited nitrogen molecules ~~after said laser pulse excitation~~ to a high-pressure vessel so as to cause effective collisional-mixing leading to a new vibrational energy state;
  - (E) flowing said nitrogen molecules at said new vibrational energy state from said high-pressure vessel to a container containing hydrogen from said hydrogen raw materials which reacts with said new vibrationally excited nitrogen molecules to form hydrazine; and

Application No.: 10/626,688

Page 3

Art Unit: 1754

(F) cooling said hydrazine and leading to a liquid form of output.

3. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2 wherein said high-energy laser pulsed source has the photon wavelengths are from the longest visible red to near infrared wavelengths between 0.76  $\mu\text{m}$  and 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. (Currently amended) The process of claim 3 wherein said high-energy laser pulsed source includes ~~said photons used are near-infrared laser photons produced from~~ a Nd: YAG laser.

5. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2 wherein said high-energy laser pulsed source has a ~~the photons come from a short-pulse laser source, with pulse length between at least 0.1 nanoseconds and 1 nanoseconds.~~

6. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2 wherein said arc lamp includes the desired photon intensity between  $10^{11}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> and  $10^{12}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> comes from a laser amplifier pumped by flashlamps a flashlamp.

7. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein said flashlamp is a cesium-neon arc lamp.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2 wherein ~~the molecule ratio of~~ said hydrogen ~~to~~ and said nitrogen ~~is~~ have a molecular ratio of 2:1.

Application No.: 10/626,688

Page 4

Art Unit: 1754

10. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2 wherein ~~the method of~~ cooling is conducted with a cyclic water flow system equipped with a heat exchanger.
11. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2 wherein said hydrazine is cooled to ordinary a temperature no higher than 300°K ~~and pressure, but not higher than 150°C.~~
12. (Currently amended) A process for producing hydrazine with nitrogen and water as raw materials, ~~and~~ comprising the steps of:
- (A) generating ~~a quantity of~~ photons from a high-energy laser-pulsed source, with pulse energy at least  $10^5$  J per pulse;
  - (B) producing photons with increased pulse intensity after traversing a laser amplifier pumped by an arc lamp, with pulse intensities ~~between~~ at least  $10^{11}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> ~~and~~  $10^{12}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>;
  - (C) introducing said intensified pulsed laser photons to excite nitrogen molecules from said nitrogen raw materials through a two-photon absorption process so that said nitrogen molecules are induced to make transitions from ~~the~~ a ground vibrational state thereof to excited vibrational states ~~in the ground electronic configuration;~~
  - (D) flowing said nitrogen, after said laser pulse excitation to produce excited nitrogen, into a vessel containing water so as to have good mixing between said excited nitrogen and said water; and
  - (E) providing an outlet so that ~~the~~ gas molecules consisting of ~~the ground states of~~ O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> can bubble out.
13. (Currently amended) The process of claim 12 wherein ~~the photons used are~~ said high-energy laser-pulsed source includes a XeCl excimer laser photons ~~of wavelength 0.35 μm.~~

Application No.: 10/626,688

Page 5

Art Unit: 1754

14. (Currently amended) The process of claim 12 wherein the photons used are in ~~the~~ shortest visible blue with wavelength of 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$ .
15. (Original) The process of claim 12 wherein the photons used have wavelengths between 0.35  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$ .
16. (Currently amended) The process of claim 12 wherein the photons ~~come from a short pulse laser source, having~~ have a pulse length between at least 0.1 nanoseconds and 1 nanosecond.
17. (Currently amended) The process of claim 12 wherein said ~~increased photon intensity between  $10^{11}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> and  $10^{12}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> comes from a laser amplifier pumped by arc lamp~~ includes flashlamps a flashlamp.
18. (Original) The process of claim 17 wherein said flashlamp is a lithium-argon arc lamp.
19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently amended) The process of claim 12 wherein ~~the molecular ratio of~~ said water molecules ~~to~~ and said nitrogen molecules ~~is~~ have a molecular ratio of at least 2:1.
21. (Original) The process of claim 12 wherein said outlet comprises a cyclic water-flow system equipped with a heat exchanger utilizing water operating at room temperature.